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• MEMORIAS de la CIVDAD •

170 ANIVERSARIO
MAPA DE LA ISLA DE CUBA
Reg. Salida No. 94
JUNIO/2025

GEOGRAPHICAL, CHRONOLOGICAL, AND STATISTICAL NOTES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Situation, &c.—The Island of Cuba is situated between 74 deg. 6 min. and 84 deg. 56 min. of west longitude from Greenwich, and between the parallels of 19 deg. 48 min. 30 sec. and 23 deg. 12 min. 48 sec. of north latitude. Approximate distance from Cape Hicacos to Florida, 112 miles. From Havana to Key West, 90 nautical miles. From Cape San Antonio to Cape Catoche, 132 miles. From Cape Maisi to San Nicholas, 48; and from the same to Cape Doña Maria, 128. From Cape Cruz to Jamaica, 86 miles. Length, following a curve line through the centre of the island, 761 miles. The breadth at the widest part, viz., from Cape Lucretia to Cape Cruz, 166 miles; and from the mouth of Nuevitas harbor to Point Mola, 128 miles; its narrowest part, from Mariel to Mayana, 24; opposite to Havana, 31. Average breadth, 52. Approximate periphery, that is to say, following partially the indentations of the coast, 1,982 miles, of which 1,041 correspond to the north, and 941 to the south coast. Superficies: Western Department, 6,200 square miles. Central, 10,900. Eastern, 8,600. Isle of Pines, 618. Adjacent islands, 700. Total, 27,028 square miles.

CHRONOLOGICAL.

PRINCIPAL EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF CUBA.

Discovery.—1492, Oct. 27. Discovered by Colon. 1494. Island of Pines discovered by the same. 1508. Circumnavigated by Ocampo, thus establishing the fact of its separation from the continent, previously undecided.

Conquest and Colonization.—1511. Conquest of the Island by Diego Velasquez. 1512. Baracoa founded. 1513. Bayamo founded. 1514. Trinidad, Santo Espiritu, and Puerto Principe founded; Working of mines. 1515. Founding of St. Jago and of Havana, the latter at Batabano—changed to its present site in 1519. 1518. Baracoa city and bishopric. 1522. St. Jago declared a city, capital, and bishopric. 1524. Introduction of 300 negroes. 1536. Grant of the Hacienda Manicaragua. 1538. Havana reduced to ashes by the *filibustieros* (pirates); Hernando de Soto first governor resident in Havana. 1545. Completion of Fort Fuerza; San Juan de los Remedios founded. 1568. First manor or entail. 1574. Municipal ordinances. 1576. Sugar estate near Havana. 1579. Ordinance relative to the measure of lands. 1580. The cultivation of Cane and Tobacco formally established near Havana. 1584. The Aqueduct of Havana completed. 1589. Moro Castle and Punta Fort completed; the Island declared a Captain Generalcy. 1598. Exemption of Sugar Estates and all their appurtenances, inclusive of slaves, from sale on execution, except for debts due to the Crown, with prohibition against renunciation of the privilege. 1604. Prohibition of the game of *azar*.

Organization.—1607. Division of the Island into two Provinces. 1638. Offices of Record for Hypothecations. 1679. Resolve relative to the boundaries of *Hatos* and *Corrales*. 1682. Diocesan Synod; Cultivation of wheat. 1689. Villa Clara founded. 1693. Matanzas founded. 1695. First notice of *black vomit* in the Island. 1704. College of San Basilio, in St. Jago, founded. 1705. Real Casa de Maternidad. 1724. First ship built on the Island. 1728. University of Havana. 1731. Santa Maria del Rosario founded. 1739. Reiteration of the prohibition to the City Corporations against gifts of lands. 1733. Cockpits established. 1740. Royal Commercial Company. 1747. Printing Office established by the government in Havana. 1748. Coffee Estates in Ubajai. 1760. Royal Manufactory of Tobacco erected in Havana.

Civilization.—1762. From 6th of June to 13th of August, siege and taking of Havana by the English. 1763 (July 6). Restoration of the Island. 1764. First work published in Havana; Intendency of the Army (pay department) established. 1766. Commandancy of the Navy established. 1772. Paseos (public walks). 1776. Coliseum in Havana. 1781. First Strangers' Guide printed. 1787. Patriotic Society founded. 1788. Division of the Island into two Dioceses. 1790. Systematic cultivation of Coffee. 1792. Printing Office in St. Jago; Royal Economical Society of Havana. 1793. First Periodical; Public Library. 1794. Royal Hospital.

Progress, &c.—1801. Freedom of Commerce; more fully established in 1818. 1804. Archbishopric of St. Jago. Perpetual exemption of Alcabala (transfer) and Tithe Duties, as to the articles of Sugar, Coffee, and produce of Indigo Plantations; Kine Pock virus. 1812. Division of the Island into three subordinate Intendencies; declared an integral part of the kingdom, with privilege of voting and representation. 1815. Freedom of the forests and cultivated grounds to their possessors; Monopoly of Tobacco discontinued, and freedom of culture and traffic allowed. 1818. First steamboat appeared at the Island; Liberty to subdivide *hatos* and *corrales*. 1819. Full ownership to possessors of lands under grants, declared. 1820 to '23. Constitution. 1821. Emigration from St. Domingo and other anterior possessions of Spain. 1823. Extended conspiracy to acquire Independence. 1825. The Island declared henceforth in a state of siege, enlarging the powers of the Captain General, and a Military Commission for trial of political offences established. 1829. The Island divided into three Military Districts. 1830. Second Conspiracy to obtain Independence. 1832. Silk-worms introduced. 1833. Cholera. 1834. Commencement of Railroad Improvements prompted by visit of Benj. H. Wright, Civil Engineer, from the United States, and preliminary survey of Havana and Guines Railroad by him; commenced the same year under direction of A. Cruger and B. H. Wright, Associate Chief Engineers. Revolt in St. Jago by its Governor, Don Manuel Lorenzo. 1836. The Island declared a Colony, and the representatives from Cuba denied seats in the Spanish Cortes. 1838. Havana and Guines Railroad completed; Tacon Theatre built. 1839. Pretorial Audiencia (Superior Tribunal) established in Havana, thus creating two Judicial Districts. 1840. Cardenas Railroad finished to Bemba. 1843. Reduction of duties on fruits exported from the Island; Reorganization of the Naval Arsenal. 1844. Extraordinary drouth, causing in the rural districts a loss to some individual proprietors of 1,000 head of cattle. 1848. Third Conspiracy discovered in Trinidad, in which General Lopez was engaged, causing his flight to the United States. 1849. Persecution of whites and negroes for supposed premeditated insurrection. 1850, May 19. Landing of Gen. Lopez in Cardenas, and abandonment after a few hours' possession. 1851, July 4. Pronunciamento of Independence, by Don Joaquin Aguero, in Puerto Principe, and three or four days subsequently, by Col. Don Isidoro Armenteros, in Trinidad. Aug. 11. Landing of Gen. Lopez in Plagitas. Aug. 16. Execution of Col. Crittenden and 49 of his command in Havana. Sept. 1. Execution of General Narcisco Lopez.

STATISTICAL.

Population.—The data relating to this division are not fully reliable, particularly in regard to the slave population. The owners of slaves, ever apprehensive of a per capita tax, have withheld from the census takers the actual number of their slaves. According to the Census of 1841, the population of the Island was as follows:—Whites, 418,291; Free Colored, 152,838; Slaves, 436,495; Total, 1,007,624. The Census of 1846 represents it as follows:—Whites, 425,767; Free Colored, 149,226; Slaves, 323,779; Total, 898,772. This enumeration is no doubt deficient as to the slaves. The best estimates, in view of these discrepancies, are that the Island has now a population of about 1,200,000, of which about 500,000 are whites, rather more than 600,000 slaves, and the remainder free colored. The population of the principal cities and towns may be estimated as follows:—

Havana,	145,750	Holguin,	4,065
St. Jago,	26,505	Baracoa,	3,-53
Puerto Principe,	21,168	San Antonio,	3,586
Matanzas,	20,986	Guines,	3,012
Trinidad,	15,890	Santiago,	2,637
Guanabacoa,	8,820	Begucal,	2,565
Sto. Spiritu,	8,024	Iguani,	2,147
Sta. Clara,	7,038	Guanajay,	2,108
Bayamo,	5,708	Pinar del Rio,	1,835
Cienfuegos,	4,897	Mariel,	1,648
Remedios,	4,806	Jaruco,	1,125
Cardenas,	4,103	Nuevitas,	1,100
Manzanillo,	4,080	Sta. Ma. del Rosario,	774

RAILROADS.

		Miles completed.
From Havana to Guines,	45	
Guines to Union,	33	
Union to Bermeja,	28	
Bermeja to Macagua,	30	136
Matanzas to Union,	—	22
Rincon to San Antonio,	8	
San Antonio to Guanajay,	13	21
San Felipe to Batabano,	—	10
Cardenas Railroad,		45
Jucaro and branches,		34
Remedios,		5
Nuevitas to Puerto Principe,		45
Santiago Bay to Cobre,		9
Regla to Guanabacoa,		2½
Cienfuegos to Sta. Clara,	41	18
		347½

NOTE.—Through the above connections, a continuous line is formed from Havana to Matanzas, a distance of 100 miles; and to Cienfuegos, with the exception of 35 miles from Macagua.

PRODUCTIONS, ETC.

The Island of Cuba furnishes a number of articles, the principal of which are these:—Sugar, Coffee, Molasses, Mahogany, Brazilete, Fustic, and various other woods; Copper Ore, Tobacco, Cigars, Rum, Wax, and Honey. The following table exhibits the reported quantities exported during the year 1851, and also a comparison with the report of 1850:—

Recapitulation of the Exports of the principal Productions of the Island in the year 1851 *compared with that of* 1850.

Year.	Rum. pipes.	Cotton. lbs.	Sugar. boxes.	Wax. lbs.	Mahog'y. dolls.	Honey. dolls.	Molasses. hhds.	Cop. Ore. cwt.	Tobacco. lbs.	Cigars. M.	Coffee. arrobas.
1851	9,221	13,045	1,539,994	57,453	398,811	69,625	318,428	432,882	9,436,591	270,313	575,119
1850	11,825	83,475	1,249,613	58,194	359,128	55,132	269,044	552,288	7,978,148	212,640	520,134
Incr'se	......	......	290,381	......	39,683	14,493	49,384	......	1,458,443	57,673	54,985
Decr'se	2,604	70,430	....	741	....	....	....	19,406	....	....	....

COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION.

From 1838 to 1842, inclusive, or a period of five years:—

Imports,	$24,892,961
Exports,	24,270,813

Classified as follows:—

	Imports.
National products in national vessels,	$5,305,536
Foreign " " "	6,889,659
" " foreign "	9,969,865
In deposit,	2,727,901
	$24,892,961

	Exports.
National products in national vessels,	$3,214,108
Foreign " " "	2,028,268
" " foreign "	16,469,015
From deposit, not specified,	2,559,422
	$24,270,813

Specification of Exports.

Sugar,	$10,346,208
Coffee,	2,013,734
Molasses,	931,172
Rum,	184,774
Wax,	188,700
Copper Ore,	3,438,769
Tobacco,	648,728
Cigars,	1,384,099
Miscellaneous,	695,099
	$19,831,282
Peninsular products,	506,348
Specie,	1,201,936
From deposit,	2,731,247
	$24,270,813

Number of Vessels, and to what nation belonging.

	Entered.	Sailed.
Spanish,	916	877
American,	1,356	1,422
English,	324	329
German,	80	88
French,	55	56
Belgian and Dutch,	37	36
Portuguese and Brazilian,	28	31
From the Baltic,	26	26
Sp. America,	11	9
Levant,	8	7
	2,841	2,881

	Tonnage.
Entered,	445,849
Sailed,	448,432

Space will not allow to give the details of succeeding years, and we therefore insert the report of 1851, the last published:—

Import duties, 1851,	$6,668,842	Export duties, 1851,	$1,793,992
" " 1850,	5,963,615	" " 1850,	757,071
Increase,	$705,227	Increase,	$1,036,921

	Spanish.	Foreign.	Total for 1851.
Tonnage, 1851,	270,176	727,814	997,990
" 1850,	246,064	627,950	
Increase,	24,112	99,864	

Statement showing the number of Vessels of each nation that entered the ports of Cuba or sailed therefrom in 1851:—

	Entered.	Sailed.		Entered.	Sailed.
Spain,	883	840	Prussia,	7	11
United States,	2,014	1,977	Sp. America,	13	13
England,	570	564	Italy,	4	3
France,	116	106	Brazil,	3	3
Belgium,	61	64	Austria,	23	28
Holland,	25	26			
Germany,	74	94	Total in 1851,	3,869	3,784
Denmark,	35	21	" 1850,	3,356	3,150
Sweden and Norway,	27	22			
Russia,	14	12	Increase,	513	634

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1851.

Imports.

Products of what country.	In Foreign Vessels.	In National Vessels.
Spain,	$15,109.4	$8,485,148.6
United States,	8,104,423.3¼	43,653.5
England,	2,269,323.3	5,105,634.6
France,	576,764.2½	1,161,604.3¼
Germany,	268,532.7½	1,584,043.7½
Belgium,	100,899.5	311,383.6
Sp. America,	420,437.2	2,339,360.2
Denmark,	147,844.7½	448,166.7½
Holland,	183,659.4¼	57,216.4¼
Italy,	10,904.6	16,243.6
Sweden and Norway,	28,998.3	
Brazil,		61,365.3
In Deposit,	285,356.2½	285,356.2½
	$12,412,254.00	$19,899,176.00
		12,412,254.00
Total Imports,		$32,311,430.00

Exports.

Products of what country.	In Foreign Vessels.	In National Vessels.
Spain,	$14,462.6	$2,821,866
United States,	13,190,070.3¼	32,774
England,	6,111,829.7½	1,048,066
France,	839,042.3	624,126
Germany,	1,437,708.4½	804,512
Belgium,	459,205.6	60,776.5
Sp. America,	132,128.4¼	615,940
Denmark,	233,828	22,481.3¼
Holland,	520,103.3	10,878
Italy,	325,618.5	155,532.4
Austria,	12,180	7,700
Russia,	1,766,482	
Sweden and Norway,	94,369.4	
		$6,204,653
		25,137,029.7
Total Exports,		$31,341,683

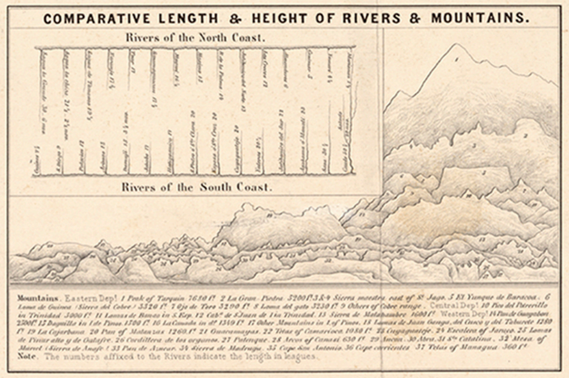
MAP OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA

Compiled from the most reliable Spanish authorities.

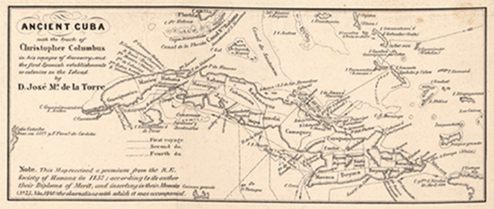
1855.

SIGNS
- CITY
- Town
- *Village*
- Eclesiastical Division
- Political Division
- Military Division
- Marine Division
- Rail Roadscompleted

COMPARATIVE LENGTH & HEIGHT OF RIVERS & MOUNTAINS.



REDUCED SCALE SHOWING THE RELATIVE POSITION OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA.



HARBORS.

The following are the principal ones; designating by small Roman capitals those that in depth and extent will admit all classes of vessels; by Roman letters those of the second and third classes; and by an asterisk (*) all of either class which are opened to commerce.

North Coast.—Bahia Honda, Cabañas, Mariel,* HAVANA,* MATANZAS,* San Juan de los Remedios,* Guanaja, NUEVITAS,* Nuevas Grandes, Manati, Malagrita, DEL-PADRE, Gibara,* Jururu, Bariay, Vita, NARANIO, Sama, Banes, NIPE, LEVISA, Cabonico, TANAMO, Cebollas, Cananova, Yaguaneque, Jaragua, Taco, Cayaguaneque, Navas, Maravi, BARACOA,* and Mata, besides numerous inlets and anchorages for coasters.

South Coast.—Batequeri, PUERTO-ESCONDIDO, GUANTANIMO,* ST. JAGO,* Manzanillo,* Santa Cruz,* CASILDA,* JAGUA,* the three lesser bays of Cochinos, Cortes, and Corrientes. The south coast has also a large number of estuaries and anchorages for coasting craft.

The greater portion of the above are of noted importance for capacity, shelter, and facility of entrance. The following are of the first order:

NIPE. About fifty square miles of superficies, wide entrance, free from bars, and furnishing good shelter.

NUEVITAS contains about forty-four square miles of superficies, and is entered by a long and very deep channel, with various places of anchorage within its borders for ships and brigs.

GUANTANIMO has twenty square miles of superficies, its interior coast forming an archipelago of ports, furnishing separate anchorage for a number of squadrons.

JAGUA. Its superficial extent is about nineteen square miles, with a clean bottom, sheltered, with a channel at its entrance of two and a half miles, well defended.

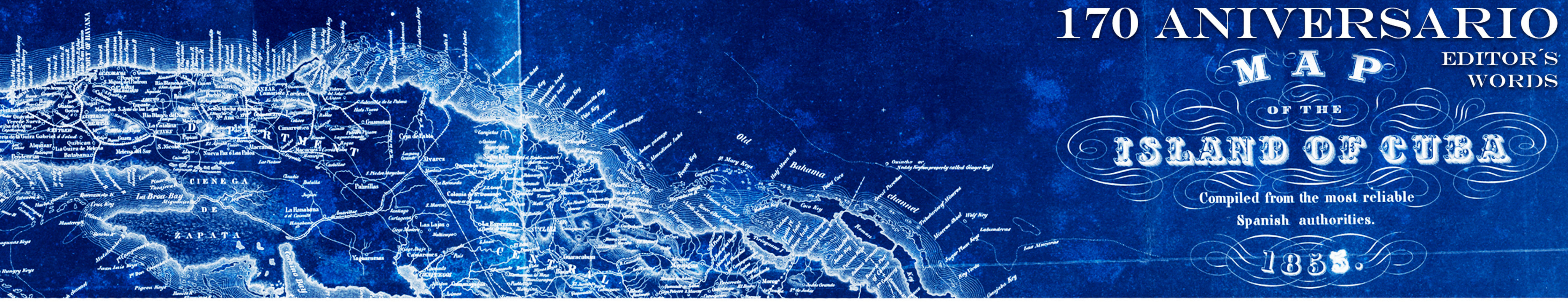
The ports of DEL-PADRE, Levisa, Mabati, &c., are of greater extent than that of Havana, but as yet the coast adjacent is in a state of nature.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1850.

Revenue from all sources,	$9,099,131
Expenditures, including $1,553,411 to Home Government,	9,089,598
Balance on hand January 1, 1851,	$9,533

Entered according to Act of Congress in the Clerks Office of the Northern District of New York in the year 1855

MAP OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA COMPILED FROM THE MOST RELIABLE SPANISH AUTHORITIES.1855.



Map of the island of cuba compiled from the most reliable spanish authorities (traducción: Mapa de la isla de Cuba elaborado a partir de las fuentes españolas más fiables), redactado en idioma inglés, se complementa con un gran recuadro dedicado a la geografía, cronología y estadísticas.

Las notas versan sobre siete temas, incluyendo los tres del enunciado, y son: ferrocarriles; producciones, comercio y navegación y las importaciones y exportaciones del año 1851. Cada acápite aborda un repaso breve de la situación de la isla en el periodo consignado. Resultando más abarcadora en la cronología y las producciones.

La sección primera, que trata de la geografía insular, es describe el derrotero costero, anotando longitud y latitud; la distancia de algunos puntos con respecto a los Estados Unidos (Florida y Key West) o la vecina isla de Jamaica. El área de cada departamento de la división administrativa expresado en millas cuadradas, las distancias entre puertos cubanos y accidentes geográficos.

La cronología se complementa con el subtítulo: Principal events in the history of Cuba, se divide en: Descubrimiento (1492), Conquista (1511), Organización (1607), Civilización (1762) y culmina con la referida al Progreso y libertad de comercio (1801). Como se verá, la selección de las fechas se corresponde con hitos de la historia, especialmente el enfoque "civilizador" que se le da a la toma de La Habana por los ingleses y su peso indiscutible en la geografía política del momento. Un detalle que no debe pasar desapercibido al momento de analizar como se encauza la información en este documento. Como vimos anteriormente, el cierre se dedica a tres aspectos fundamentales, que serán tratados in extenso, en relación a los anteriores. Y puede ser analizado como una microhistoria matizada de sucesos sociopolíticos y económicos. El enfoque cronológico se aborda temas como el estanco del tabaco, la instauración del arzobispado de Santiago de Cuba, la emigración francesa desde Santo Domingo, la división político administrativa o los movimientos conspirativos. Finalizando con la muerte por garrote vil del general Narciso López luego del fracaso expedicionario del 1851.

El cuadro de Estadísticas resume la población de la isla a partir de los resultados de los censos practicados en los años 1841 y 1846, organizándolas según el color de la piel en tres grandes grupos (Whites, Free Colored y Slaves), o sea blancos, personas de color libres y esclavos. Siempre desde una perspectiva colonialista de la sociedad, como es típico de la época. En una tabla se insertan, según la densidad poblacional los datos estimados de veintiséis ciudades, comenzando con La Habana, 145750; St. Jago (Santiago de Cuba en su acepción en inglés), 26505 y culmina con Santa María del Rosario, 774.

La sección de Ferrocarriles expone quince corporaciones, anotando las millas completadas hasta el momento: Habana a Güines; Güines a Unión; Unión a Bermeja; Bermeja a Macagua; Matanzas a Unión; Rincón a San Antonio; San Antonio a Guanajay; San Felipe a Batabanó; Cárdenas; sucursales de Júcaro; Remedios; Nuevitas a Puerto Príncipe; bahía de Santiago de Cuba a El Cobre; Regla a Guanabacoa y Cienfuegos a Santa Clara, para un total de trescientas cuarenta y siete millas y media.

Con respecto a las producciones, se organizan por su importancia económica, siendo el azúcar y el café las primeras, seguidas por las maderas y la industria minera (cobre) y otros ramos de industrias menores como el tabaco, cigarrillos, ron y los derivados de la miel de abeja. Incluyendo una tabla comparativa de las exportaciones del 1851 con respecto al año anterior, detallando los incrementos y bajadas de cada producto.

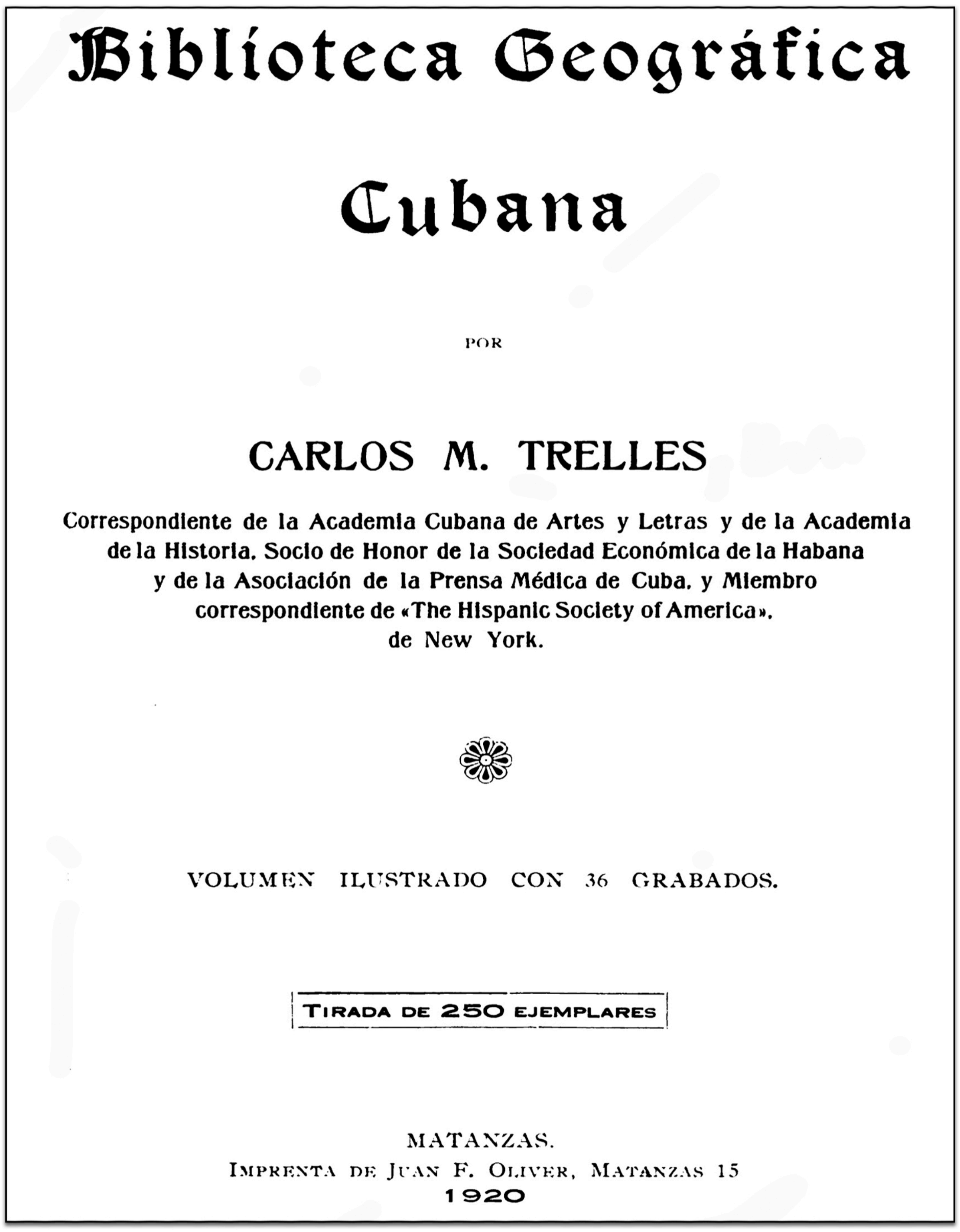
Comercio y navegación mantiene la misma estructura, y la información es puramente estadística y comparativa. Un cúmulo de datos que ilustra el movimiento mercantil según la procedencia de la flota que en esos años frecuenta la isla.

La representación de la geografía insular es precisa, este mapa está bien ejecutado en su integridad y tratamiento de la gráfica. Desde el puntaje de la tipografía hasta los datos de cada población, llegando incluso a detallar en algunos barrios de ciudades como Matanzas. A la par de los núcleos urbanos se marcan las líneas ferrocarrileras enunciadas en el gran cuadro superior. Pautando una lectura coherente al remitirse al apartado de los SIGNS (signos), para el cual se establecen tres categorías: ciudad (circunferencia con punto en el centro); pueblo (circunferencia simple) y villa (similar al anterior). La forma de representar las divisiones eclesiásticas, política, militar, marina y de ferrocarriles, resume cada delimitación con el uso de su simbología.

Justo debajo de esta leyenda, se estampan dos columnas explicativas de las bahías cubanas en la porción norte y sur, de occidente a oriente, incluyendo datos comparativos de calado, extensión, abrigo y maniobrabilidad.

En el extremo inferior izquierdo se insertan dos planos de referencia, uno de la posición de Cuba en el golfo de México, las Antillas y América Central. Y el cásico mapa de don José María de La Torre que muestra los cacicazgos del pasado aborigen. Una pequeña adenda refiere el valor del mapa de La Torre como documento histórico digno de ser incluido en este gran mapa. La ultima inserción se dedica a un cuadro ilustrado, comparativo de la longitud (en leguas) y altura (pies) de algunos ríos (ambos hemisferios) y montañas.

La leyenda es sencilla, alterna letras mayúsculas y minúsculas, con líneas onduladas que ornamentan de manera sencilla el cuerpo textual. El enmarcado es sencillo, rematado en los ángulos por una viñeta de motivos florales sin mucho protagonismo.



Biblioteca Geográfica Cubana

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VOLUMEN ILUSTRADO CON 36 GRABADOS.

TIRADA DE 250 EJEMPLARES

MATANZAS.
IMPRENTA DE JUAN F. OLIVER, MATANZAS 15
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